

# 4<sup>TH</sup> QUARTER NEWSLETTER

2022

Free continuing education units in 2022

# 16,000+

**The ABAA Performed Over Three Times More  
Free Educational Hours Than in 2019!**

# 3X

# 2019

# 2022

air barrier  
**abaa**  
association of  
america

# GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIRS

As we approach the holiday season, we are reminded that this is a time to reflect on the year's successes and identify goals for the future. This was also a topic of our recent Executive Committee meeting in October 2022. During that meeting, we discussed opportunities for expansion and outreach into other countries, procedural improvements at the Committee level, and exciting possibilities for training and certifications to be offered by the ABAA. While ABAA remains committed to the original priority at inception to get air barriers out in the world and installed correctly, we have grown in our mission and established a focus on our diverse membership and alignment with their evolving needs. In fact, we are pleased to announce that our membership has grown 14.6 percent over the past few years!

**On this note, we highlighted the various membership advocacy roles that have been added to the ABAA, including:**

- Engaged a code and standards consultant to work on the International Energy Conservation Code, International Building Code, American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, and American Society of Testing Materials
- Coordination with the State of Washington to assist with code requirements for performance requirements for whole building testing

**We also discussed the success of returning to in-person education and outreach events, including:**

- Our first in-person conference (held May 8-10, 2022) since March 2019
- A continuation of the fastener penetration research with ABAA members in attendance
- In-person training and education seminars at symposiums and conferences
- Presented at the Buildings XV conference in Clearwater Beach, Florida, during which, a number of our members presented at the Pre-Conference Workshop

The Executive Committee also deliberated the continued need for installer training and the challenges with getting information to those on-site promptly and efficiently. In response, the Executive Committee brainstormed considerations for new training methodologies and how to work within all the various Committees to create an integrated approach.

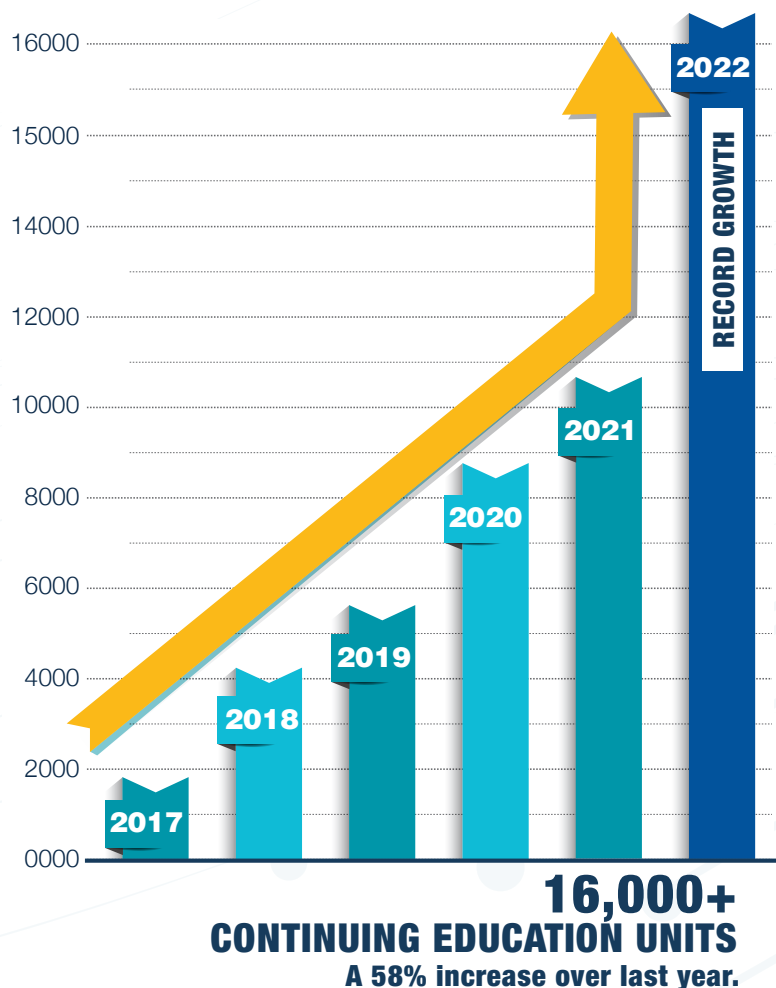
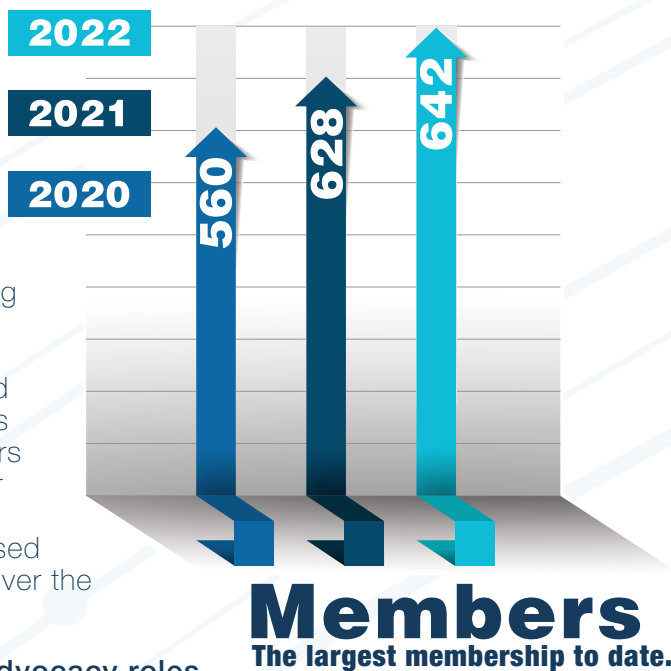
In closing, we are looking forward to what 2023 has in store for the ABAA, and we wish you all the best in the coming holiday season!

**Sarah Flock**

Co-Chair: Air Barrier Association of America  
Raths, Raths, and Johnson

**Andrew Dunlap**

Co-Chair: Air Barrier Association of America  
SmithGroup



# IS YOUR ORGANIZATION GETTING ALL THE BENEFITS THE ABAA HAS TO OFFER?

*SEE OUR 4TH QUARTER EDUCATION EFFORTS*



## 18

### **HOSTED 12 ABAA WEBINARS AND 6 ABAA CONTRACTOR WEBINARS**

Topics ranging from continuous insulation, roof-to-wall connections, commissioning, and NFPA 285. ABAA capped off the year with 2 full Procrastinator Day webinars that included 6 courses each day with a combined attendance of 1,379 people. We also presented 2 BNP Media hosted webinars.

## 9

### **PARTNERED WITH 9 BEC/CSI/AIA CHAPTERS**

Including BEC Portland, BEC Seattle, CSI Phoenix, BEC Los Angeles, AIA Oregon COTE, CSI Greater Lehigh Valley, BEC Iowa, BEC MN, BEC Tampa Bay and a joint program with the construction company, Jaynes Corporation.

## 4

### **PRESENTED AT 4 MAJOR CONFERENCES**

Building Communities Conference & Tradeshow, Advancing Construction Quality Conference, Association of Licensed Architects Conference and Buildings XV Conference.

## 5

### **PRESENTED AT 5 BEC/CSI/AIA/IMI CHAPTER MEETINGS**

BEC WI, BEC Detroit, BEC Charlotte, CSI Dallas, and IMI MN

AIA  
Continuing  
Education  
Provider

# 2023 | DENVER | MAY 1ST & 2ND

air barrier  
**abaa**  
association of  
america

## BUILDING ENCLOSURE CONFERENCE

## CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES



### EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

Your goods and services will be visited by hundreds of trade professionals. The exhibitor's hall is a high-traffic area, as booths will be located in and just outside the main ballroom, close to our keynotes, lunches, opening reception, and training rooms. Prime booth locations are provided on a first come, first serve basis!



### SPONSORSHIP

Sponsoring is the perfect way to enhance your visibility among influential business leaders, design professionals, building owners, general contractors, and air barrier contractors.

Be recognized prominently in marketing materials, before, during, and after the conference. Availability is limited and these sell out fast.

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**2023 | MAY 1ST & 2ND | DENVER | COLORADO | LEARN MORE! >>>**

[www.ABAAconference.com](http://www.ABAAconference.com)

## FEATURE ARTICLE BUBBLE GUN TESTING OF SITE INSTALLATIONS

by Brian Stroik, CABS, FABAA, Performance Excellence / Quality Consultant, American Contractors Insurance Group, and Laverne Dalgleish, Executive Director, Air Barrier Association of America (ABAA)

**T**he challenge an air barrier installer faces is that you can not see air leaks. As an installer gains experience, they learn where the typical leakage areas are and develop ways to seal the leaks resulting in an airtight building envelope.

Making air leaks visible can be done anytime in any area you want to check (ASTM E1186 Standard Practices for Air Leakage Site Detection in Building Envelopes and Air Barrier Systems). Of the different means on finding air leaks, one method is very suited for the installer to use during or shortly after the air barrier installation or after penetrations are installed in the air barrier system: Chamber depressurization and leak detection liquids, commonly referred to as "the bubble gun test".



### Continue Reading This Article

Full article available  
to download!



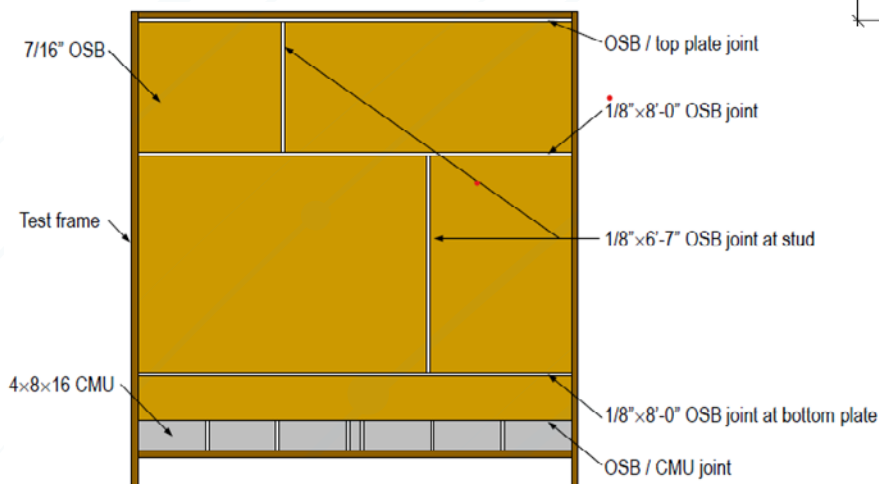


## AIR LEAKAGE PATHS IN A TYPICAL WOOD FRAMED WALL ASSEMBLY

by Mr. Laverne Dalgleish, Executive Director of the Air Barrier Association of America

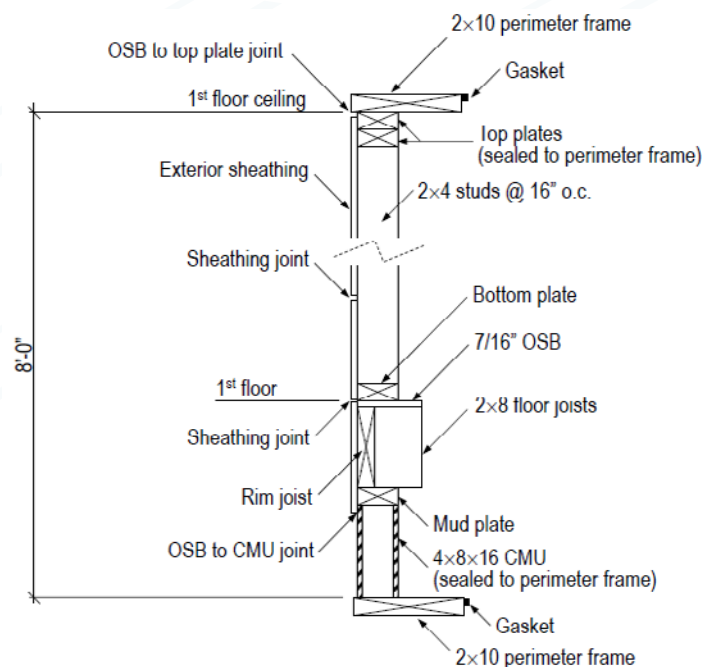
The Air Barrier Association of America (ABAA) worked with Oak Ridge National Laboratories (ORNL) to conduct assembly testing on a wood framed wall to determine what are the gaps, cracks, and holes that would leak the most. The testing was conducted at Tremco's facility in Cleveland Ohio, where they have a fully automated test apparatus to conduct a ASTM E2357 Standard Test Method for Determining Air Leakage Rate of Air Barrier Assemblies. The funding to ORNL was supplied by the Department of Energy (DOE) Building America Program.

This research was an extension to the ABAA Research Project on Air Barriers which was to determine whether there was energy savings when you make a building very airtight.



**Figure 1: Schematic of Test Wall Assembly**

The baseline specimen was a more detailed ASTM E2357 test specimen, where the wall was purposely made very leaky. The specimen was framed in a wooden buck for ease of mounting into the test apparatus. A foundation was simulated with CMU and a wood mud sill was installed with spacers between the mud sill and the CMU to represent typical site conditions. Simulated floor joists with a header was then installed and then a strip of sub floor was installed. The sub-floor was shimmed to replicate the drying and movement of wood framing members on the construction site. A wall was then framed using 2 x 4's with a single bottom plate and a double top plate. The wall was sheathed with OSB. A 1/8-inch gap was maintained between the sheets of OSB which is a standard practice on job sites to allow for the expansion and contraction of the material due to temperature and moisture content.



**Figure 2: Cross Section of Mock-up Assembly**

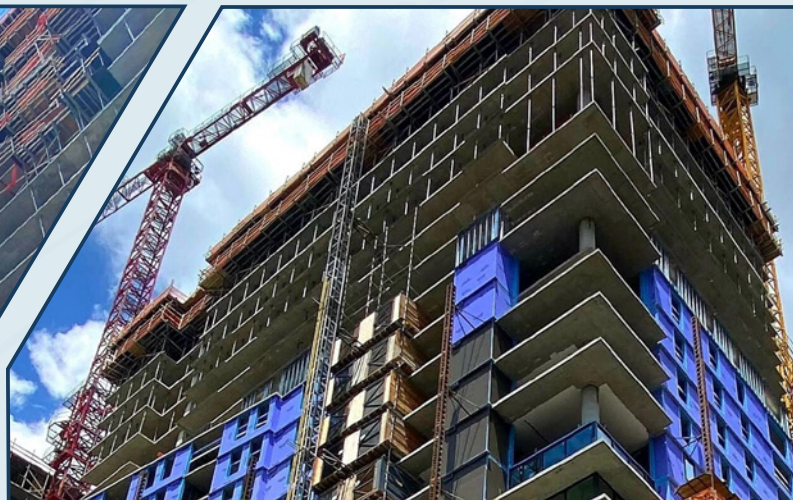
Details on the construction of this wall specimen was documented so that the base specimen could be replicated for additional testing with various types of air barrier materials being installed. To identify how much air would leak through a specific air leakage path, it was decided on to test the complete wall specimen to start with and then to seal one crack, gap or hole at a time and test after each air leakage path was sealed. The baseline wall was inserted into the test apparatus and the wall proved to be so leaky,

that it was impossible to create a 25 Pa pressure difference across the specimen. This confirmed that the goal of making the baseline specimen very leaky was achieved. Now we talk about a air leakage rate at 75 Pa but this is the reported leakage rate. In ASTM E 2357 we actually test at 600 Pa, then 800 Pa and finally 1200 Pa. You will find that all testing is conducted at multiple pressure differences and normally much higher than the reported test pressure.

## Continue Reading This Article:

Two more pages available to download!





## WEST ROSSLYN NORTH & SOUTH TOWER APARTMENTS

*Royals Commercial's team installing air barrier systems on two buildings as part of the West Rosslyn apartment project in Arlington, VA for Whiting Turner. Two 25 story towers to receive the Henry AVB System – Air-Bloc® 17MR and Blueskin SA.*

### ➤ [MORE DETAILS](#)

**ARCHITECT:** Hickok Cole Architects, Inc.

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR:** The Whiting-Turner Contracting Co.

**LOCATION:** Arlington, VA

**TYPE:** New Construction

**BUILDING AREA (sq. ft.):** 1.18 million

**TOTAL AIR BARRIER AREA (sq. ft.):** 180,900

**ACCREDITED CONTRACTOR:** Royals Commercial of Maryland, LLC

### AIR BARRIER INSTALLERS:

Edgar Chinchilla, Edgar Contreras, Raul Meja, Jose Talavera, Gilberto Mendoza, Daniel Gamez

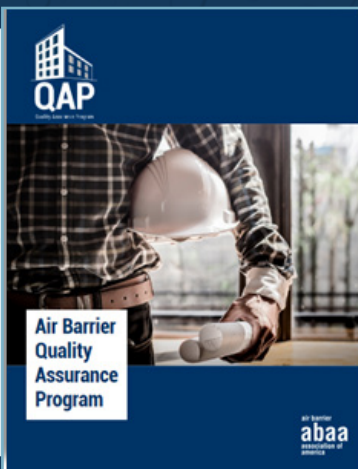


### Quickly Calculate Cost

We have a simple QAP calculator, try it out!  
[www.airbarrier.org/qap/qap-calculator](http://www.airbarrier.org/qap/qap-calculator)

### Showcase Your Project

Your QAP project could be featured here!  
Contact Louise at: [lhardman@airbarrier.org](mailto:lhardman@airbarrier.org)



## ABAA QAP [QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM] Landing Page and Brochure

Check out details on the QAP program that outlines the benefits, what the QAP entails, and how much it costs for a variety of building sizes and types.

➤ [Brochure](#) ➤ [Landing Page](#)



## Upcoming Education

- 05-Jan Webinar – It Takes a Village to Build a High-Performance Building
- 12-Jan Webinar – Dan Lemieux – Topic: TBA
- 19-Jan Webinar – David Leslie – Topic: TBA
- 26-Jan Webinar – Tips for Detailing Masonry Assemblies
- 02-Feb Webinar – Rethinking your Insulation Strategies
- 08-Feb NIC-ASHI – Vapor Barrier Issues
- 09-Feb Webinar – Polyiso: Next Generation
- 16-Feb Webinar – Ben Meyer – Topic: TBA
- 23-Feb Webinar – Steven Tratt – Topic: TBA
- 02-Mar Webinar – Adam Ugliuzza – Topic: TBA
- 23-Mar Webinar – Andrea Wagner Watts – Topic: TBA



**Register & Learn**

## Certification Training 2023

### WHOLE BUILDING AIRTIGHTNESS

- March 20-24
- May 8-12
- July 10-14
- October 9-13

### SPRAYED POLYURETHANE FOAM INSTALLER

- February 12-13 - Daytona Beach, FL
- May 1-3 - Denver, CO

### FIELD AUDITOR

- May 1-3 - Denver, CO

### SELF-ADHERED & FLUID APPLIED

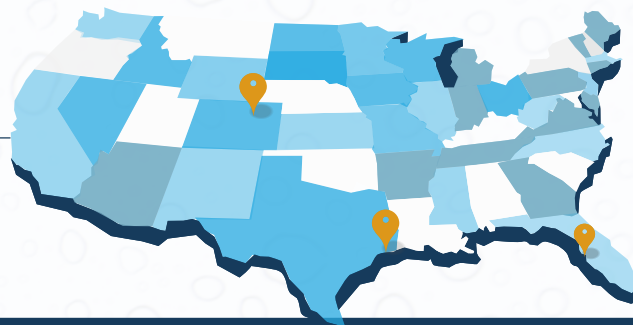
- May 1-3 - Denver, CO
- January 17-19 - Virtual
- March 14-16 - Virtual

**Register Now!** *\*Certify yourself or your team!*

## ABAA in Action

### We Will Be Present at These Events

- Feb 01-03 CSI Master Specifiers Retreat – Fort Myers, FL
- Mar 02-06 IIBEC International Convention & Tradeshow – Houston, TX
- May 01-02 ABAA Building Enclosure Conference – Denver, CO



## On-Demand Webinars

- Specifying Air Barriers to Achieve Air Tightness  
<https://bit.ly/3MY5jNe>
- The Importance of Wall-to-roof Connections for the Air Barrier  
<https://bit.ly/3qEQiFU>
- Game Plan to Getting Air Barriers Right  
<https://bit.ly/3E2NuHe>
- The Elusive Sub-Contractor Responsible for Transitions  
<https://bit.ly/33x3lf5>
- Navigating the Real, Imperfect Air Barrier Details  
<https://bit.ly/3dTIROc>
- New Standards and Tools to Update Your Air Barrier Specifications  
<https://bit.ly/3hl67LI>
- New Tools, Research & Site Quality in the Air Barrier Industry  
<https://bit.ly/3EWuew1>
- Recurring Field Installation Issues with Air Barriers  
<https://bit.ly/3HNY0E5>
- Moisture Movement in Building Enclosures  
<https://bit.ly/3KVQYA8>
- Air Barrier Continuity Strategies for Storefront & Curtain Wall Systems  
<https://bit.ly/3ytbodF>
- QA or QC: What to Specify for High Performance Building Enclosures  
<https://bit.ly/3ePxpOc>

# WHAT HAS ABAA BEEN DOING FOR MEMBERS IN 2022?



**AIR BARRIER  
EDUCATION  
FOR THE  
CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY**

JANUARY  
THRU DECEMBER

ATTENDEES  
**14,813**

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS  
**16,000+**

EVENTS  
**137**

**AIA  
Continuing  
Education  
Provider**

## REGISTER & LEARN

[www.airbarrier.org/events/category/webinars](http://www.airbarrier.org/events/category/webinars)

## HUNGRY FOR MORE EDUCATION?

Sample our Learning Unit Café, an online menu of our most requested air barrier courses that any architectural firm, BEC, CSI, or AIA chapter can schedule at their convenience.

The menu consists of both Live and On-Demand presentations and all are 1 LU/HSW, and many are GBCI.

### ORDER FROM THE MENU

[www.airbarrier.org/abaa-learning-unit-cafe](http://www.airbarrier.org/abaa-learning-unit-cafe)



## MENU

**ORDER ONLINE NOW!**

### ABAA LEARNING UNIT CAFE



### DESSERT

On-Demand  
Presentations  
24/7

Certified Air Barrier  
Specialist (CABS)  
LAUNCH WEBINAR  
by Roy Schaufele, FCSI,  
CCPR, FABAA, CABS  
(no learning units)

### MAIN COURSE

1.0 LU/HSW/GBCI

**Oh No! What Did I Miss? How to Properly Specify an Air Barrier**

by: Roy Schaufele, FCSI, CCPR, FABAA, CABS

**The Big Disconnect: The Importance of Wall to Roof Connections for Your Air Barrier**

by: Roy Schaufele, FCSI, CCPR, FABAA, CABS

**Please Proceed with Caution: Ensure Your Building Enclosure is Sustainable and Performs**

by: Brian Strick, American Contractors Insurance Group, Performance Excellence & Quality Consultant, Chair of the ABAA, Past Chair - BEC National

**Trust, but Verify - Quality Control for your Air Barriers**

by: Ryan Dalgleish, CSI, CAE

**New Tools to Help Drive Decisions in your Air Barrier Specifications**

by: Laverne Dalgleish, ABAA Executive Director

**Air Barrier Material Testing - Why Peanut Butter is Good for a Sandwich, but NOT for your Air Barrier**

by: Laverne Dalgleish, ABAA Executive Director

**Live Presentations can be scheduled 8am-8pm EST**

### TAKE-OUT

1.0 LU/HSW/IIBEC

On-demand presentations available to stream 24/7

**Specifying Air Barriers to Achieve Airtightness**

by: Laverne Dalgleish, ABAA Executive Director

**Game Plan to Getting Air Barriers Right**

by: Brian Strick, American Contractors Insurance Group, Performance Excellence & Quality Consultant, Chair of the ABAA, Past Chair - BEC National

**"By Others" - The Elusive Subcontractor Responsible for Transitions + GBCI**

by: Andrew Dunlap, AIA, CDT, LEED AP, NCARB, Principal, SmithGroup, Inc.

[WWW.AIRBARRIER.ORG](http://WWW.AIRBARRIER.ORG)

# WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK! WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

Do you have some feedback for us? We Would love to hear it!  
Email it to us at: [lharden@airbarrier.org](mailto:lharden@airbarrier.org)



**CABS**  
Certified Air  
Barrier Specialist

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